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QUESTION OF PALESTINE
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 28 May 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour, as Chairman of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), to enclose herewith the Declaration adopted by the NAM Committee on Palestine at ministerial level on 12 May 1993 in Bali, Indonesia (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 30 and 35, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nugroho WISNUMURTI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Declaration of the Committee on Palestine of the Non-Aligned Movement

1. The Committee on Palestine of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) met at ministerial level on 12 May 1993 in Bali, Indonesia, under the chairmanship of His Excellency the Foreign Minister of Indonesia, Mr. Ali Alatas. It was attended by H.E. Mr. A. S. M. Mustafizur Rahman, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Bangladesh; H.E. Mr. R. L. Bhatia, Minister of State for External Affairs, India; H.E. Mr. Farouq Qaddoumi, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Palestine; H.E. Dr. Nathan M. Shamuyarira, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Zimbabwe; H.E. Mr. Hocine Djoudi, Secretary-General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Algeria; H.E. Mr. Raul Taladrid, Vice-President of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, Cuba; H.E. Hon. Dr. D. W. C. Matutu, Deputy Minister for Commerce, Trade and Industry, Zambia; and H.E. Mr. Alia Diene Drame, Economic Adviser to the Prime Minister, Senegal.

2. H.E. Mr. Farouq Qaddoumi briefed the meeting on the current situation in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem (Al-Quds), and also on the latest developments in the ongoing peace process in the Middle East.

3. As a result of the persistence of Israel, the occupying Power, in its policies and practices in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem (Al-Quds), the situation continues to be of grave concern.

4. Israel, in continued violation of its legal obligations under the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, has even escalated its brutal repression against the Palestinian people. Mass deportations tantamount to mass force transfer of Palestinians were condemned by the United Nations Security Council in resolution 799 (1992). Israel persistently refuses to carry out the decision of the Security Council to ensure the safe, total and immediate return of the deportees to their homes. The members of the Committee are of the opinion that the Security Council should be called upon to perform its functions and carry out its duties and responsibilities, so as to ensure respect for the Council's decisions.

5. The members expressed grave concern and alarm over the imposition by Israel of collective punishment, long curfews and closure of the occupied Palestinian territory, which resulted in grave economic hardships. They recalled that the Committee meeting held under the chairmanship of H.E. President Soeharto of Indonesia on 4 September 1992 warned of grave consequences as a result of the destruction of the economic infrastructure of the Palestinians under occupation.

6. Of particular concern is the declared position of the Government of Israel and its persistence in implementing its policies and practices in Jerusalem (Al-Quds) by continuing to establish more settlements and imposing high taxation on Palestinian inhabitants of Jerusalem. The members of the Committee consider such acts as flagrant violations of United Nations Security Council resolutions 252 (1968), 465 (1980) and 478 (1980) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly. They affirmed the commitment of NAM to the above resolutions and consider that all Israeli practices aiming at changing the

status and demographic composition of Jerusalem (Al-Quds) and the illegal establishment of settlements in Jerusalem and in all the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories are null and void.

7. The members recalled Security Council resolution 681 (1990) and reaffirmed their call for immediate international protection to protect the Palestinians under occupation against the violations by Israel of the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention and the principles and objectives of international humanitarian law. The Ministers were of the opinion that the protection of the human rights of Palestinians under the occupation should be ensured and addressed by the World Conference on Human Rights to be held at Vienna in June 1993.

8. On the question of the ongoing peace process, the members highly appreciated the flexibility and wisdom of the Palestinian leadership, namely the PLO, to contribute towards the achievement of a just and comprehensive peace. They were of the opinion that the procrastinating method of negotiation by Israel, and its failure to adhere to the basis of the ongoing process, namely, the implementation of United Nations Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973), land for peace, and the guaranteeing of the national and legitimate political rights of the Palestinian people, constitute an obstacle and not a contribution to the ongoing process. The members were of the opinion that such a process could lead to peace only when it is based on Israel's withdrawal from all the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem and all other occupied Arab territories, and which will guarantee the exercise by the Palestinian people of its inalienable rights.

9. The members of the Committee called for a more active involvement of the United Nations and its agencies, particularly in economic development of the Arab occupied territories. They reiterated the continuing responsibility of the United Nations on the question of Palestine.

10. They agreed that the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant resolutions, particularly the resolutions of the Security Council, provide the correct and best basis for the achievement of a comprehensive, just and durable peace in the region.

11. The members of the Committee expressed their gratitude and appreciation to His Excellency President Soeharto, as Chairman of NAM, for the decision he has taken to send a special envoy to the Arab countries taking part in the peace process at this crucial stage of negotiations. They also suggested to the Chairman of NAM that the same envoy could go to the two co-sponsoring countries of the peace process.

12. The members of the Committee will continue their efforts within the Movement, the United Nations and all other regional and international forums to work for and attain the long-sought peace.